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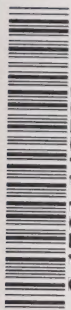
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39th Parl.
1st Sess.

Feb - June
2005

Canada. Parliament. House of Commons
Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance

Minutes of Proceedings



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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

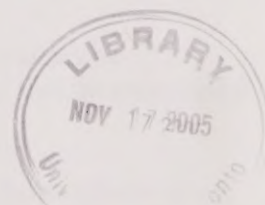
**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ.

Meeting No. 1

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

IN CAMERA



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 1

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance met *in camera* at 3:37 p.m. this day, in Room 208 West Block, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

In attendance: Parliamentary Information and Research Service: June Dewetering, principal; Alexandre Laurin, analyst.

The Subcommittee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Subcommittee business.

ORDERED, — That the Standing Committee on Finance establish a special subcommittee with the mandate to propose concrete solutions to correct the fiscal imbalance and that this subcommittee comprise at least one member of each political party, excluding the chair, and that it have an analyst and a clerk. This subcommittee will hold hearings on this matter. I will table its report to the Standing Committee on Finance for adoption and the final report will be tabled in the House of Commons no later than June 2, 2005.

It was agreed, — That the subcommittee be composed of Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Yvan Loubier, Guy Côté and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

It was agreed, — That Yvan Loubier be appointed Chair of the Subcommittee.

It was agreed, — That the Subcommittee be granted all of the powers of the Committee pursuant to Standing Order 108(1) except the power to report to the House.

It was agreed, — That the Subcommittee retain the services of one or more analyst[s] from the Library of Parliament, as needed, to assist the Subcommittee in its work, at the discretion of the Chair.

It was agreed, — That witnesses be given twenty (20) minutes for their opening statement; that, at the discretion of the Chair, during the questioning of witnesses, there be allocated up to ten (10) minutes for the first questioner of each party in the following order: Conservative Party, Bloc Québécois, New Democratic Party and Liberal Party; and that thereafter up to five (5) minutes be allocated to each subsequent questioners at the discretion of the Chair.

It was agreed, — That, if requested, reasonable travel, accommodation and living expenses be reimbursed to witnesses not exceeding two (2) representatives per organization; and that, in exceptional circumstances, payment for more representatives be at the discretion of the Chair.

It was agreed, — That the Clerk of the Subcommittee be authorized to distribute to the members of the Subcommittee documents [only when they exist in both official languages] and that no documents from a witness be distributed without the Clerk's approval.

It was agreed, — That the Clerk of the Subcommittee be authorized to make the necessary arrangements

to provide for working meals for the Subcommittee.

It was agreed, — That, unless otherwise ordered, each Subcommittee member be allowed to have one staff person present at *in camera* meetings.

It was agreed, — That one copy of the transcript of all *in camera* meetings be kept in the Subcommittee Clerk's office for consultation by members of the Subcommittee.

It was agreed, — That, except for amendments to bills, forty-eight (48) hours' notice be given before any substantive motion is considered by the Subcommittee; and That the motion be filed with the Clerk of the Subcommittee and circulated to members in both official languages..

It was agreed, — That the Sub-Committee travel in the following cities:

1. Friday, February 18: Halifax
2. Monday, March 7: Edmonton
3. Friday, March 11: Toronto
4. Monday, March 21: Regina
5. Monday, April 4: Winnipeg
6. Monday, April 11: Quebec
7. Monday, April 18: Victoria.

It was agreed, — That the seven travel budgets and the operational budget be adopted.

It was agreed, — That the budgets be submitted to the Standing Committee on Finance on Wednesday, February 2, 2005.

It was agreed, — That the first list of witnesses be adopted.

It was agreed, — That the text for witnesses be adopted.

At 4:36 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/02/11 12:07 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS


**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ.

Meeting No. 2

Thursday, February 3, 2005

IN CAMERA



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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 2

Thursday, February 3, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance met *in camera* at 1:31 p.m. this day, in Room 237-C Centre Block, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

In attendance: Parliamentary Information and Research Service: June Dewetering, principal; Alexandre Laurin, analyst.

The Subcommittee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Committee business.

At 1:59 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/02/11 12:08 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ.

Meeting No. 3

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

IN CAMERA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 3

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance met *in camera* at 10:30 a.m. this day, in Room 307 West Block, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Acting Members present: Charlie Penson for Rona Ambrose.

In attendance: Parliamentary Information and Research Service: June Dewetering, principal; Alexandre Laurin, analyst.

The Subcommittee proceeded to the consideration of matters related to Subcommittee business.

At 11:00 a.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/02/08 2:24 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 4

Friday, February 18, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Guy Côté
and Yvan Loubier.

ACTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Hubbard for Don H. Bell,
and Peter Stoffer for Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

Atlantic Provinces Economic Council:

David Chaundy, Senior Economist.

Atlantic Institute for Market Studies:

Brian Lee Crowley, Economist.

Government of Prince Edward Island:

Hon. Mitchell Murphy, Provincial Treasurer;

John Palmer, Director , Economic and Statistics, Federal Fiscal Relations.

The Minister made a statement and, with John Palmer, answered questions.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 4

Friday, February 18, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 10:32 a.m. this day, in the Acadia A-B-C- Room, Casino Nova Scotia Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Guy Côté and Yvan Loubier.

Acting Members present: Charles Hubbard for Don H. Bell and Peter Stoffer for Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Library of Parliament.

Witnesses: Atlantic Provinces Economic Council: David Chaundy, Senior Economist. *Atlantic Institute for Market Studies:* Brian Lee Crowley, Economist. *Government of Prince Edward Island:* Mitchell Murphy, Provincial Treasurer; John Palmer, Director , Economic and Statistics, Federal Fiscal Relations.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

David Chaundy and Brian Lee Crowley made statements and answered questions.

At 12:11 p.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 1:25 p.m., the sitting resumed.

The Minister made a statement and, with John Palmer, answered questions.

At 3:02 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/02/22 3:25 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 5

Friday, March 11, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Rona Ambrose,
Guy Côté,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

ACTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Szabo for Don H. Bell.

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon. John McKay
and Alan Tonks.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

Department of Finance:

Colin Andersen, Deputy Minister of Finance.

As an Individual:

Richard Bird, International Tax Program, Joseph L. Rotman
School of Management, University of Toronto.

Government of Ontario:

Mike Colle, MPP Eglinton-Lawrence and Parliamentary Assistant
to the Minister of Finance.

Canadian Tax Foundation:

David Perry, Senior Research Associate.

Government of Ontario:

Greg Sorbara, Minister of Finance.

Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario:

John Tory, Leader.

Department of Finance:

John Whitehead, Director, Office of Budget and Taxation, Ontario
Ministry of Finance.

John Tory made a statement and answered questions.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 5

Friday, March 11, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 8:05 a.m. this day, in the room Toronto 3, Hilton Toronto Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylcia-Leis.

Acting Members present: Paul Szabo for Don H. Bell.

Other Members present: Hon. John McKay and Alan Tonks.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: Department of Finance: Colin Andersen, Deputy Minister of Finance. *As an Individual:* Richard Bird, International Tax Program, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto. *Government of Ontario:* Mike Colle, MPP Eglinton-Lawrence and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance. *Canadian Tax Foundation:* David Perry, Senior Research Associate. *Government of Ontario:* Greg Sorbara, Minister of Finance. *Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario:* John Tory, Leader. *Department of Finance:* John Whitehead, Director, Office of Budget and Taxation, Ontario Ministry of Finance.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

John Tory made a statement and answered questions.

At 9:10 a.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 9:21 a.m., the sitting resumed.

Richard Bird and David Perry made statements and answered questions.

At 10:51 a.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 11:00 a.m., the sitting resumed.

The Minister made a statement and, with Mike Colle, Colin Andersen and John Whitehead, answered questions.

At 12:07 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis

Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/03/14 2:43 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 7

Monday, March 21, 2005

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Don H. Bell,
Guy Côté,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

ACTING MEMBER PRESENT:

Brian Fitzpatrick for Rona Ambrose.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

Government of Saskatchewan:

Hon. Lorne Calvert, Premier;
Dan Perrins, Deputy Minister to the Premier.

Department of Finance:

Ron Styles, Deputy Minister of Finance.

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan:

Brad Wall, MLA and Leader of the Official Opposition
Saskatchewan (Saskatchewan Party) and ;
Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA;
Iain Harry, Director of Policy Development, Saskatchewan Party
Caucus.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 7

Monday, March 21, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 9:00 a.m. this day, in the Room Umbria, Delta Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Acting Members present: Brian Fitzpatrick for Rona Ambrose.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: Government of Saskatchewan: Hon. Lorne Calvert, Premier; Dan Perrins, Deputy Minister to the Premier. *Department of Finance:* Ron Styles, Deputy Minister of Finance. *Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan:* Brad Wall, MLA and Leader of the Official Opposition Saskatchewan (Saskatchewan Party) and : Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA; Iain Harry, Director of Policy Development, Saskatchewan Party Caucus.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

The Hon. Lorne Calvert made a statement and answered questions.

At 10:40, the sitting was suspended.

At 10:45, the sitting resumed.

Brad Wall made a statement and answered questions.

At 12:00 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/03/22 3:18 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 8

Monday, March 21, 2005

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Don H. Bell,
Guy Côté,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

ACTING MEMBER PRESENT:

Brian Fitzpatrick for Rona Ambrose.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESS:

Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy:
Ian Peach, Director.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 8

Monday, March 21, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 1:00 p.m. this day, in the Room Umbria, Delta Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Acting Members present: Brian Fitzpatrick for Rona Ambrose.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy: Ian Peach, Director.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Ian Peach made a statement and answered questions.

At 2:15 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/03/22 3:43 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ.

Meeting No. 9

Monday, April 4, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Rona Ambrose,
Don H. Bell,
Guy Côté
and Yvan Loubier.

ACTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jean Crowder for Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

The Fraser Institute:

Fred McMahon, Director, Centre for Globalization Studies;
Niels Veldhuis, Senior Research Economist.

As an Individual:

Rod Dobell, Emeritus Professor of Public Policy, University of
Victoria.

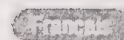
Business Council of British Columbia:

Jock Finlayson, Executive Vice President, Policy.

Government of British Columbia:

Dan Doyle, Deputy minister , Transport.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 9

Monday, April 4, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 8:00 a.m. this day, in the Saanich, Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria, British Columbia, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Guy Côté and Yvan Loubier.

Acting Members present: Jean Crowder for Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: The Fraser Institute: Fred McMahon, Director, Centre for Globalization Studies; Niels Veldhuis, Senior Research Economist. *As an Individual:* Rod Dobell, Emeritus Professor of Public Policy, University of Victoria. *Business Council of British Columbia:* Jock Finlayson, Executive Vice President, Policy. *Government of British Columbia:* Dan Doyle, Deputy minister, Transport.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Fred McMahon, Jock Finlayson and Rod Dobell made statements and answered questions.

At 10:00 a.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 10:15 a.m., the sitting resumed.

Dan Doyle made a statement and answered questions.

At 12:00 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/04/05 3:36 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 10

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Rona Ambrose,
Don H. Bell
and Guy Côté.

ACTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jean Crowder for Judy Wasylycia-Leis,
and Pauline Picard for Guy Côté.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

Conference Board of Canada:

Paul Darby, Deputy Chief Economist.

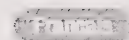
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives:

Hugh Mackenzie, Research Associate.

Caledon Institute of Social Policy:

Michael Mendelson, Policy analyst.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 10

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 4:13 p.m. this day, in Room 308 West Block, Rona Ambrose, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell and Guy Côté.

Acting Members present: Jean Crowder for Judy Wasylycia-Leis and Pauline Picard for Guy Côté.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: Conference Board of Canada: Paul Darby, Deputy Chief Economist. *Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives:* Hugh Mackenzie, Research Associate. *Caledon Institute of Social Policy:* Michael Mendelson, Policy analyst.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Paul Darby, Michael Mendelson and Hugh Mackenzie made statements and answered questions.

At 5:41 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/04/14 3:04 p.m.

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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 11

Monday, April 11, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Rona Ambrose,
Don H. Bell,
Guy Côté,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

OTHER MEMBER PRESENT:

Raymonde Folco.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

Centrale des syndicats du Québec:

Pierre Beaulne, Economist;
Pierre Séguin, Vice-Président.

Government of Quebec:

Michel Audet, MLA and Minister of Finance;
Patrick Déry, Director, Federal-Provincial Relations Directorate,
Department of Finance;
Camille Horth, Associate Secretary General, Secrétariat aux
Affaires Intergouvernementales canadiennes;
Benoît Pelletier, MLA and Minister for Canadian
Intergovernmental Affairs;
Jean Séguin, Political attaché, Minister of Finance's Office;
Bernard Turgeon, Associate Deputy Minister, Department of
Finance.

Union des Producteurs Agricoles du Québec:

Serge Lebeau, Senior International Trade Advisor and Assistant
Director, Agricultural Studies and Policies Department;
Laurent Pellerin, President.

Quebec National Assembly:

Marc Picard, MNA and Finance Critic of the Action Démocratique
du Québec;
Mario Dumont, MNA and Leader of the Action démocratique du
Québec.

As Individuals:

Karine Dumont, Researcher, Research Chair on Taxation and
Public Finance of Sherbrooke University;
Luc Godbout, Fiscal Policy Teacher, Research Chair on Taxation
and Public Finance of Sherbrooke University.

Pierre Séguin, Luc Godbout and Karine Dumont made statements and, with Pierre Beaulne, answered questions.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 11

Monday, April 11, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 8:02 a.m. this day, in the room Duquesne/Jonquière, Hôtel Delta Québec, Quebec, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Other Members present: Raymonde Folco.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: Government of Quebec: Michel Audet, MLA and Minister of Finance. *Centrale des syndicats du Québec:* Pierre Beaulne, Economist. *Government of Quebec:* Patrick Déry, Director, Federal-Provincial Relations Directorate, Department of Finance. *As Individuals:* Karine Dumont, Researcher, Research Chair on Taxation and Public Finance of Sherbrooke University. *Quebec National Assembly:* Mario Dumont, MNA and Leader of the Action démocratique du Québec. *As Individuals:* Luc Godbout, Fiscal Policy Teacher, Research Chair on Taxation and Public Finance of Sherbrooke University. *Government of Quebec:* Camille Horth, Associate Secretary General, Secrétariat aux Affaires intergouvernementales canadiennes. *Union des Producteurs Agricoles du Québec:* Serge Lebeau, Senior International Trade Advisor and Assistant Director, Agricultural Studies and Policies Department; Laurent Pellerin, President. *Government of Quebec:* Benoît Pelletier, MLA and Minister for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs. *Quebec National Assembly:* Marc Picard, MNA and Finance Critic of the Action Démocratique du Québec. *Government of Quebec:* Jean Séguin, Political attaché, Minister of Finance's Office. *Centrale des syndicats du Québec:* Pierre Séguin, Vice-Président. *Government of Quebec:* Bernard Turgeon, Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Finance.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Pierre Séguin, Luc Godbout and Karine Dumont made statements and, with Pierre Beaulne, answered questions.

At 9:08 a.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 9:14 a.m., the sitting resumed.

Benoît Pelletier and Michel Audet made statements and answered questions.

At 10:44 a.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 10:53 a.m., the sitting resumed.

Mario Dumont and Marc Pinard made statements and answered questions.

At 11:39 a.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 11:55 a.m., the sitting resumed.

Laurent Pellerin and Serge Lebeau made statements and answered questions.

At 12:48 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/04/14 4:57 p.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chair: Yvan Loubier, Lib.

Meeting No. 12

Monday, April 11, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Rona Ambrose,
Don H. Bell,
Guy Côté,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec:
Monique Audet, advisor;
Pierre Dupuis, Vice-President.

Quebec Federation of University Students:

Guillaume Lavoie, Vice-President, International and Federal Affairs.

Quebec National Assembly:

François Legault, MLA and Official Opposition critic for economic development and finance (Parti Québécois).

Conseil du patronat du Québec:

Gilles Taillon, President.

As Individuals:

Pierre Laval Mathieu;
Léa-Cadieux Mathieu.

Pierre Dupuis made a statement and, with Monique Audet, answered questions.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 12

Monday, April 11, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 2:05 p.m. this day, in the Duquesne/Jonquière room, Hôtel Delta Québec, Quebec, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec: Monique Audet, advisor; Pierre Dupuis, Vice-President. *Quebec Federation of University Students:* Guillaume Lavoie, Vice-President, International and Federal Affairs. *Quebec National Assembly:* François Legault, MLA and Official Opposition critic for economic development and finance (Parti Québécois). *Conseil du patronat du Québec:* Gilles Taillon, President. *As Individuals:* Pierre-Laval Mathieu; Léa Cadieux Mathieu.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Gilles Taillon and Guillaume Lavoie made statements and answered questions.

At 3:05 p.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 3:15 p.m., the sitting resumed.

François Legault made a statement and answered questions.

At 3:56 p.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 4:22 p.m., the sitting resumed.

Pierre Dupuis made a statement and, with Monique Audet, answered questions.

At 4:50 p.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 4:55 p.m., the sitting resumed.

Pierre-Laval Mathieu and Léa Cadieux Mathieu made statements and answered questions.

At 5:12 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/04/14 4:55 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chair: Yvan Loubier, Lib.

Meeting No. 13

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Rona Ambrose,
Don H. Bell,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

ACTING MEMBER PRESENT:

Alain Boire for Guy Côté.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

Queen's University:
Ronald Watts, Principal Emeritus, Professor Emeritus of Political
Studies, Fellow of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations.

As an Individual:

Robin Boadway, Queen's University.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 13

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 4:23 p.m. this day, in Room 371 West Block, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Acting Members present: Alain Boire for Guy Côté.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: Queen's University: Ronald Watts, Principal Emeritus, Professor Emeritus of Political Studies, Fellow of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations; Robin Boadway, Sir Edward Peacock, Professor of Economic Theory, Fellow of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Prof. Robin Boadway and Prof. Ronald Watts made statements and answered questions.

At 5:52 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/04/14 10:02 a.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 14

Monday, April 18, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Don H. Bell,
Guy Côté,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

ACTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joy Smith for Rona Ambrose.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst;
June Dewetering, Principal.

WITNESSES:

Legislative Assembly of Manitoba:

Jon Gerrard, MLA and Leader of the Opposition (Liberal Party).

Government of Manitoba:

Greg Selinger, Minister of Finance.

Department of Finance:

Ewald Boschmann, Deputy Minister of Finance;

Jim Eldridge, Special Adviser on Intergovernmental Relations.

The Hon. Greg Selinger made a statement and, with Jim Eldridge, answered questions.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 14

Monday, April 18, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 8:9 a.m. this day, in the Ballroom C, Delta Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Acting Members present: Joy Smith for Rona Ambrose.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: Alexandre Laurin, Analyst; June Dewetering, Principal.

Witnesses: Legislative Assembly of Manitoba: Jon Gerrard, MLA and Leader of the Opposition, Liberal Party. *Government of Manitoba:* Greg Selinger, Minister of Finance. *Department of Finance:* Ewald Boschmann, Deputy Minister of Finance; Jim Eldridge, Special Adviser on Intergovernmental Relations.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Jon Gerrard made a statement and answered questions.

At 8:58 a.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 9:06 a.m., the sitting resumed.

The Hon. Greg Selinger made a statement and, with Jim Eldridge, answered questions.

At 10:30 a.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 10:53 a.m., the sitting resumed.

Stuart Murray made a statement and answered questions.

At 12:00 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/04/18 2:46 p.m.

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38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 15

Monday, April 18, 2005

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Don H. Bell,
Guy Côté,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

ACTING MEMBER PRESENT:

Joy Smith for Rona Ambrose.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Library of Parliament:
June Dewetering, Principal;
Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

As Individuals:

Vic Schroeder;

Ronald Neumann, CIDA Advisor to the Ministry of Finance and
Economic Planning, Government of Ghana;

Paul Thomas, Duff Roblin Professor of Government, St. John's
College, University of Manitoba.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee



Close

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 15

Monday, April 18, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 1:17 p.m. this day, in the Ballroom C, Delta Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Acting Members present: Joy Smith for Rona Ambrose.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: As Individuals: Vic Schroeder; Ronald Neumann, CIDA Advisor to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Government of Ghana; Paul Thomas, Duff Roblin Professor of Government, University of Manitoba, St. John's College.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Vic Schroeder made a statement and answered questions.

At 2:13 p.m., the sitting was suspended.

At 2:32 p.m., the sitting resumed.

Ronald Neumann and Paul Thomas made statements and answered questions.

At 4:01 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/04/20 8:52 a.m.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ.

Meeting No. 16

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

ORDER OF THE DAY:

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENT:

Rona Ambrose,
Don H. Bell,
Guy Côté,
Yvan Loubier
and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon. John McKay.

IN ATTENDANCE:

*Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on
Finance:*

June Dewetering.

Library of Parliament:

Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

WITNESSES:

Queen's University:

Thomas J. Courchene, Jarislowsky-Deutsch Professor of Economic and Financial Policy, Senior Scholar, Institute for Research on Public Policy, Montreal;

Harvey Lazar, Director, Institute of Intergovernmental Relations, School of Policy Studies.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee



Close

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 16

Wednesday, May 4, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met at 3:33 p.m. this day, in Room 253-D Centre Block, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Other Members present: Hon. John McKay.

In attendance: Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance: June Dewetering. *Library of Parliament:* Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Witnesses: Queen's University: Thomas J. Courchene, Jarislowsky-Deutsch Professor of Economic and Financial Policy, Senior Scholar, Institute for Research on Public Policy, Montreal; Harvey Lazar, Director, Institute of Intergovernmental Relations, School of Policy Studies.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee commenced its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

Thomas J. Courchene and Harvey Lazar made statements and answered questions.

At 4:51 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/05/05 9:40 a.m.

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38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 17

Monday, May 30, 2005

IN CAMERA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 17

Monday, May 30, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met *in camera* at 3:45 p.m. this day, in Room 208 West Block, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Acting Members present: Susan Kadis for Don H. Bell.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

The Subcommittee proceeded to the consideration of the draft report

At 5:03 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/06/02 11:09 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA
38th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISCAL IMBALANCE OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Chair: Yvan Loubier, BQ

Meeting No. 18

Thursday, June 2, 2005

IN CAMERA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 18

Thursday, June 2, 2005

The Subcommittee on Fiscal Imbalance of the Standing Committee on Finance met *in camera* at 9:14 a.m. this day, in Room 237-C Centre Block, the Chair, Yvan Loubier, presiding.

Members of the Subcommittee present: Rona Ambrose, Don H. Bell, Guy Côté, Yvan Loubier and Judy Wasylycia-Leis.

Other Members present: Hon. John McKay.

In attendance: Library of Parliament: June Dewetering, Principal; Alexandre Laurin, Analyst.

Pursuant to the Order of Reference of Tuesday, November 2, the Subcommittee resumed its study on Fiscal Imbalance.

The Subcommittee resumed consideration of a draft report.

It was agreed on division, — That the Draft Report be adopted, as amended, as the First Report of the Subcommittee.

It was agreed, — That the title of the report be:

THE EXISTENCE, EXTENT AND ELIMINATION OF CANADA'S FISCAL IMBALANCE.

It was agreed on division, — That the Subcommittee append to its report dissenting or supplementary opinions from the opposition parties provided that they are no more than five pages in length and submitted electronically to the Clerk of the Subcommittee, no later than 12:00 o'clock p.m., Monday, June 6, 2005.

It was agreed, — That the Chair, Clerk and researchers be authorized to make such grammatical and editorial changes as may be necessary without changing the substance of the report.

It was agreed on division, — That the Chair be instructed to present the Report of the Subcommittee to the Standing Committee on Finance.

It was agreed, — That the Subcommittee print 550 copies of the Report in English and in French.

At 11:00 a.m., the Subcommittee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Richard Dupuis
Clerk of the Subcommittee

2005/06/02 2:58 p.m.



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